

**TRANSLATION**

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

**PCT**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>E26' B41 PCT</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. <b>PCT/FR2004/003279</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>17.12.2004</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>18.12.2003</b>	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC <b>F16K31/00</b>			
Applicant <b>EATON S.A.M.</b>			

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <b>4</b> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>
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<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>
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Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.  
PCT/FR2004/003279

## Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 
  - international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
  - publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
  - international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):
 

the international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:
 

pages 1-10 \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

the claims:
 

nos. 1-16 \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished

nos.\* \_\_\_\_\_ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

nos.\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

nos.\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

the drawings:
 

sheets 1/3-3/3 \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished

sheets\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

sheets\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3.  The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 

the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_

the claims, nos. \_\_\_\_\_

the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_

the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
4.  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
 

the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_

the claims, nos. \_\_\_\_\_

the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_

the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.  
PCT/FR2004/003279Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

## 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	4-8, 10, 13, 15, 16	YES
	Claims	1-3, 9, 11, 12, 14	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	4, 10, 13, 15, 16	YES
	Claims	5-8	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO

## 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

## 1. Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: GB 2 051 312 A (MARTONAIR LTD) 14 January 1981 (1981-01-14)

D2: US 4 561 627 A (MECKSTROTH ALAN F) 31 December 1985 (1985-12-31)

## 2. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1

The present application fails to meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1), since the subject matter of claim 1 does not comply with the criterion of novelty as defined by PCT Article 33(2).

D1 describes (the references between parentheses apply to said document) a hydraulic valve for regulating flow rate, comprising at least one pressure relief valve 8 translatable movably between a closed position in contact with a seat 6 and an open position at a distance therefrom, wherein the movement of said pressure relief valve is controlled by a piezoelectric part and said part is a washer 25.

D2 also describes all the features of claim 1: the

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**Box No. V** **Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

movable pressure relief valve 46, controlled by a piezoelectric washer 96 (see figure 5, in which the solenoid 95 can be replaced by a piezoelectric part).

3. DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2, 3, 5 to 9, 11, 12, 14

Said claims contain no features which, when combined with the features of any one of the claims to which they refer, define subject matter that complies with the PCT requirements of novelty and inventive step (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)).

4. DEPENDENT CLAIMS 4, 10, 13, 15 and 16

The combination of features of claims 4, 10, 13, 15 and 16 is not found in the prior art and cannot be derived in an obvious manner therefrom.